

Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: _____ D. _____

Date: October 18, 2007

Topic: First Review of Proposed Funding Distributions for Local Project Discovery Programs and Delegation of Authority Request

Presenter: Dr. Cynthia A. Cave, Director of Student Services

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Origin:

_____ Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

X Board review required by

X State or federal law or regulation

_____ Board of Education regulation

_____ Other: _____

X Action requested at this meeting _____ Action requested at future meeting: _____ (date)

Previous Review/Action:

X No previous board review/action

_____ Previous review/action

date _____

action _____

Background Information:

Project Discovery is a dropout prevention program and college access preparatory program offered through 22 Partner Agencies in Virginia to 4th through 12th graders. Serving economically disadvantaged, potential first generation post-secondary education attendees, the program is designed to promote education as a means to ending the cycle of poverty for current and future generations of students. Project Discovery was launched as a pilot program in 1979 by Total Action Against Poverty, the Community Action Agency based in Roanoke, Virginia, in cooperation with Roanoke College and the Roanoke City Public Schools. Incorporated in 1985, Project Discovery has been funded since July 1986 by the Virginia General Assembly, with distribution through the Virginia Department of Education.

Summary of Major Elements:

As shown in the first attachment from the 2007 Appropriation Act, "The Board of Education shall determine the Project Discovery funding distributions to each community action agency." In the second attachment, the proposed funding allocations to the 19 current programs and central office are shown.

The third attachment is a resolution presented in this Board item that would delegate the approval for funding allocation to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, under the following specific conditions:

- 1) That the Superintendent reports annually to the Board on his exercise of the authority and responsibility delegated to him;
- 2) That the Board reserves the right to require of the Superintendent a report concerning the exercise of any authority herein delegated;
- 3) That the Superintendent's exercise of the delegated authorities shall conform to all regulations of the Board and laws governing educational programs and policy in Virginia; and
- 4) That this delegation is not an abnegation of the Board's power and responsibility in the areas delegated.

This delegation of authority shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded by the Board of Education, or until the language in the Appropriation Act is amended so that the Board is no longer obligated to determine Project Discovery funding distributions.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education approve the funding distributions for the current budget year and adopt the resolution to delegate its authority for determination of distributions, subject to the conditions listed above.

Impact on Resources:

There is no financial impact. The funds were specified in the 2007 Appropriation Act, Item 134, # B, in the total amount of \$900,000.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

Upon Board of Education approval, the Virginia Department of Education will distribute the funds to Project Discovery on a semimonthly basis (i.e., the 16th and last day of the month) through Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) payments.

Attachment 1

ITEM 134.	Item Details(\$)		Appropriations(\$)	
	First Year FY2007	Second Year FY2008	First Year FY2007	Second Year FY2008
Direct Aid to Public Education (197)				
134. Financial Assistance for Educational, Cultural, Community, and Artistic Affairs (14300).....			\$2,747,750	\$2,447,750 \$3,097,750
Financial Assistance for Supplemental Education (14304)	\$2,747,750	\$2,447,750 \$3,097,750		
Fund Sources: General.....	\$2,747,750	\$2,447,750 \$3,097,750		

Authority: Discretionary Inclusion.

A. Out of this appropriation, the Department of Education shall provide \$400,000 the first year and ~~\$400,000~~ \$500,000 the second year from the general fund for the Jobs for Virginia Graduates initiative.

B.1. Out of this appropriation, the Department of Education shall provide \$800,000 the first year and ~~\$800,000~~ \$900,000 the second year from the general fund for Project Discovery. These funds are to fund approximately one-half of the cost of the program in Abingdon, Accomack/Northampton, Alexandria, Amherst, Appomattox, Arlington, Bedford, Bland, Campbell, Charlottesville, Cumberland, Danville/Pittsylvania, Fairfax, Franklin/Patrick, Goochland/Powhatan, Lynchburg, Newport News, Norfolk, Richmond City, Roanoke City, Smyth, Surry/Sussex, Tazewell, Williamsburg/James City, and Wythe and the salary of a fiscal officer for Project Discovery.

2. The Board of Education shall determine the Project Discovery funding distributions to each community action agency. The contract with Project Discovery, Inc. should specify the allocations to each local Project Discovery program. Allocations shall be on a per pupil basis for students enrolled in the program.

Attachment 2

Project Discovery
Budget Allocation Spreadsheet
FY 08/09
Current Programs

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Student Service Level 07/08</u>
Arlington Employment Center (AEC)	\$ 34,621.05	63
Alexandria Office of Youth Services (AOYS)	\$ 63,430.05	136
Clinch Valley Community Action (CVCA)	\$ 41,352.05	80
Eastern Shore Area Agency on Ageing/Community Action Agency (ESAAA/CAA)	\$ 34,666.05	63
Fairfax County Office of Partnerships (FCOP)	\$ 33,846.05	61
Heartland Opportunities and Partnerships for Empowerment (HOPE)	\$ 41,352.05	80
Lynchburg Community Action Group (LYNCAG)	\$ 33,846.05	63
Monticello Area Community Action Agency (MACAA)	\$ 57,928.05	121
Mountain Community Action Program (MTCAP)	\$ 33,846.05	61
Office of Human Affairs (OHA)	\$ 64,562.05	138
Pittsylvania County Community Action (PCCA)	\$ 36,825.05	68
PEOPLE of Southwest Virginia (PEOPLE, INC)	\$ 41,352.05	80
Richmond Community Action Program/ Powhatan-Goochland (RCAP/PG)	\$ 34,647.05	63
Richmond Community Action Program (RCAP)	\$ 78,650.05	173
Support to Eliminate Poverty (STEP)	\$ 36,825.05	68
Southeast Tidewater Opportunity Project (STOP)	\$ 47,396.05	95
Total Action Against Poverty (TAP)	\$ 84,673.05	188
The Improvement Association (TIA)	\$ 34,666.05	63
Williamsburg James City County Community Action Agency (WJCCCAA)	\$ 33,846.05	61
Central Office	\$ 31,670.05	
Total 7/08	\$900,000.00	1725

Attachment 3

Virginia Board of Education Resolution

Delegating Certain Duties to the Superintendent of Public Instruction

Resolution Number _____

October 18, 2007

That the following Board responsibilities, as currently set forth in the 2007 Session, Chapter 847, 2007 Acts of Assembly, Appropriation Act, and as may be set forth in subsequent Appropriation Acts, be delegated to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Under the section, Direct Aid to Public Education (197), ITEM 134, Financial Assistance for Educational, Cultural, Community, and Artistic Affairs (14300) and Financial Assistance for Supplemental Education (14304), Item #B, states that:

“B.1. Out of this appropriation, the Department of Education shall provide \$800,000 the first year and ~~\$800,000~~ \$900,000 the second year from the general fund for Project Discovery. These funds are to fund approximately one-half of the cost of the program in Abingdon, Accomack/Northampton, Alexandria, Amherst, Appomattox, Arlington, Bedford, Bland, Campbell, Charlottesville, Cumberland, Danville/Pittsylvania, Fairfax, Franklin/Patrick, Goochland/Powhatan, Lynchburg, Newport News, Norfolk, Richmond City, Roanoke City, Smyth, Surry/Sussex, Tazewell, Williamsburg/James City, and Wythe and the salary of a fiscal officer for Project Discovery.

2. The Board of Education shall determine the Project Discovery funding distributions to each community action agency. The contract with Project Discovery, Inc. should specify the allocations to each local Project Discovery program. Allocations shall be on a per pupil basis for students enrolled in the program.”

This delegation of authority shall apply only to the determination of funding distributions. Such delegation shall also be subject to the following conditions:

- a) That the Superintendent reports annually to the Board on his exercise of the authority and responsibility delegated to him;
- b) That the Board reserves the right to require of the Superintendent a report concerning the exercise of any authority herein delegated;
- c) That the Superintendent’s exercise of the delegated authorities shall conform to all regulations of the Board and laws governing educational programs and policy in Virginia; and
- d) That this delegation is not an abnegation of the Board’s power and responsibility in the areas delegated.

This delegation of authority shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded by the Board of Education, or until the language in the Appropriation Act is amended so that the Board is no longer obligated to determine Project Discovery funding distributions.